A4

In a first aspect of the invention, an information apparatus is constructed for notifying output information to a remote terminal in response to an input signal of a sound. The information apparatus is comprised of a first memory block that stores characteristic data representing characteristics of various sounds, a second memory block that stores various items of output information corresponding to the characteristic data of the various sounds such that each item of the output information is associated with each sound, an input device that collects a sound to provide an input signal of the collected sound, an analyzer device that extracts characteristic data from the input signal of the collected sound, a controller device that operates according to the extracted characteristic data for addressing the first memory block and the second memory block to identify the item of the output information corresponding to the collected sound, and a transmitter device that transmits the identified item of the output information to the remote terminal, wherein a new sound and a corresponding item of output information can be registered to update the first memory block and the second memory block such that the analyzer device extracts new characteristic data from the new sound, and the controller device registers the extracted new characteristic data into the first memory block and registers the corresponding item of the output information into the second memory block.

On page 5, line 2, please delete the paragraph beginning with "In a" and replace it with the following new paragraph:

A5

In a second aspect of the invention, an information apparatus is constructed for notifying output information to a remote terminal in response to an input signal of a

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A5
Concluded

sound. The information apparatus is comprised of a first memory block that stores characteristic data representing characteristics of various sounds, a second memory block that stores various items of output information corresponding to the characteristic data of the various sounds such that each item of the output information is associated with each sound, a plurality of input devices that are spatially distributed to collect a sound from a source location, and that respectively provide input signals of the same sound, a detector device that processes the input signals provided from the spatially distributed input devices to detect the source location of the sound, an analyzer device that extracts characteristic data from at least one of the input signals of the collected sound, a controller device that operates according to the extracted characteristic data for addressing the first memory block and the second memory block to identify the item of the output information corresponding to the collected sound, and a transmitter device that transmits the identified item of the output information to the remote terminal together with the detected source location of the sound. Preferably, the information apparatus further comprises a canceler device that checks whether the output information associated with the sound is true or false according to the source location of the sound, and that cancels transmission of the output information if the output information is false.

On page 6, line 6, please delete the paragraph beginning with "In a specific" and replace it with the following new paragraph:

A6

In a specific form, the analyzer device analyzes a frequency spectrum of the sound to extract therefrom a characteristic pattern, which is stored as the characteristic

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Concluded

data in the first memory block, and the controller device uses the characteristic pattern as an index to identify the item of the output information corresponding to the sound.

On page 7, line 16, please delete the paragraph beginning with "Further, an inventive" and replace it with the following new paragraph:

A7

Further, an inventive informing method is designed for notifying output information to a remote terminal in response to an input signal of a sound. The informing method is comprised of the steps of storing characteristic data representing characteristics of various sounds in a first memory, storing various items of output information corresponding to the characteristic data of the various sounds in a second memory such that each item of the output information is associated with each sound, collecting a sound to provide an input signal of the collected sound, extracting characteristic data from the input signal of the collected sound, addressing the first memory and the second memory based on the extracted characteristic data to identify the item of the output information corresponding to the collected sound, transmitting the identified item of the output information to the remote terminal, and registering a new sound and a corresponding item of output information to update the first memory and the second memory such that new characteristic data is extracted from the new sound and the corresponding item of the output information is determined in association with the new sound, and then the extracted new characteristic data is stored in the first memory while the corresponding item of the output information is stored in the second memory.

On page 10, line 12, please delete the paragraph beginning with "The inventive information" and replace it with the following new paragraph:

A8

The inventive information apparatus of FIG. 1 is constructed for notifying output information to the remote terminal in response to an input signal of a sound. In the information apparatus, the first memory block 51 stores characteristic data representing characteristics of various sounds. The second memory block 52 stores various items of output information corresponding to the characteristic data of the various sounds such that each item of the output information or phrase is associated with each sound. The input device composed of the microphone 10 collects a sound to provide an input signal of the collected sound. An analyzer device including the frequency analyzer 30 extracts characteristic data from the input signal of the collected sound. The controller device 40 operates according to the extracted characteristic data for addressing the first memory block 51 and the second memory block 52 to identify the item of the output information corresponding to the collected sound. A transmitter device contained in the transmitter/receiver 70 transmits the identified item of the output information to a receiver device contained in the transmitter/receiver 80 of the remote terminal. The inventive information apparatus has a registration mode, in which a new sound and a corresponding item of output information can be registered for updating the first memory block 51 and the second memory block 52 such that the analyzer device extracts new characteristic data from the new sound, and the controller device 40 registers the

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(Concluded)

extracted new characteristic data into the first memory block 51 and registers the corresponding item of the output information into the second memory block 52.

On page 12, line 13, please delete the paragraph beginning with "The following describes" and replace it with the following new paragraph:

A9

The following describes the details of the frequency analyzer 30 and the controller 40 shown in FIG. 1. The frequency analyzer 30 performs FFT, for example, on an input sound signal supplied from the A/D converter 20, and develops the transformed sound signal to the time-series spectrum of frequency and amplitude variations, thereby providing a sound spectrum. The sound spectrum is supplied to the controller 40 in which a sound pattern characterizing the sound is extracted from the sound spectrum. The extracted sound pattern indicates the characteristics unique to the timbre and tone of the sound. If the information announcing apparatus according to the invention is set to the registration mode, the extracted sound pattern is stored in the characteristic data memory block 51 of the memory device 50 under the control of the controller 40. Namely, in the inventive information apparatus, the analyzer device including the frequency analyzer 30 and controller 40 analyzes a frequency spectrum of the sound to extract therefrom a characteristic pattern, which is stored as the characteristic data in the first memory block 51, and the controller 40 uses the characteristic pattern as an index to identify the item of the output information corresponding to the sound.

On page 15, line 12, please delete the paragraph beginning with "As described, the" and replace it with the following new paragraph:

A 10

As described, the inventive informing method is designed for notifying output information to a remote terminal in response to an input signal of a sound. The informing method is comprised of the steps of storing characteristic data representing characteristics of various sounds in the first memory block 51, storing various items of output information corresponding to the characteristic data of the various sounds in the second memory block 52 such that each item of the output information is associated with each sound, collecting a sound to provide an input signal of the collected sound, extracting characteristic data from the input signal of the collected sound, addressing the first memory block 51 and the second memory block 52 based on the extracted characteristic data to identify the item of the output information corresponding to the collected sound, transmitting the identified item of the output information to the remote terminal, and registering a new sound and a corresponding item of output information to update the first memory block 51 and the second memory block 52 such that new characteristic data is extracted from the new sound and the corresponding item of the output information is determined in association with the new sound, and then the extracted new characteristic data is stored in the first memory block 51 while the corresponding item of the output information is stored in the second memory block 52.

On page 21, line 6, please delete the paragraph beginning with "The source location" and replace it with the following new paragraph:

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A 11

The source location identifying block 62 identifies the approximate location of the sound source on the basis of the results of the sound power analysis for each microphone 11 and the identification of the nearest microphone 11, and generates sound source location information, which is sent through the information transmitter/receiver 70 to the remote terminal. Namely, the inventive information apparatus is constructed for notifying output information to the remote terminal in response to the input signal of the sound. In the apparatus, the first memory block 51 stores characteristic data representing characteristics of various sounds. The second memory block 52 stores various items of output information corresponding to the characteristic data of the various sounds such that each item of the output information is associated with each sound. A plurality of input devices are spatially distributed in the form of the microphones 11 to collect a sound from a source location, and respectively provide input signals of the same sound. The detector device 60 processes the input signals provided from the spatially distributed input devices to detect the source location of the sound. At least one of the analyzer devices 30 extracts characteristic data from at least one of the input signals of the collected sound. The controller device 40 operates according to the extracted characteristic data for addressing the first memory block 51 and the second memory block 52 to identify the item of the output information corresponding to the collected sound. The transmitter device 70 transmits the identified item of the output information to the remote terminal together with the detected source location of the sound.

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On page 22, line 21, please delete the paragraph beginning with "The announcement" and replace it with the following new paragraph:

A 12

The announcement cancel block 63 stores, beforehand, specific items of sounds which should not inherently be detected by the microphones 11. If an unwanted sound is received by the microphones 11, the announcement cancel block 63 cancels the sending of the sound source location information to the information transmitter/receiver 70. A sound which should not be detected is exemplified by an alarm siren of an ambulance generated from a television set in a room. If this happens, such an alarm siren is recognized as false sounds. Namely, the canceler device or the announcement cancel block 63 checks whether the output information associated with the sound is true or false according to the source location of the sound, and cancels transmission of the output information if the output information is false.

On page 25, line 18, please delete the paragraph beginning with "A machine-readable" and replace it with the following new paragraph:

A 13

A machine-readable medium M (FIG. 1) may be used in the inventive information apparatus having a central processing unit in the controller 40, the first memory block 51 storing characteristic data representing characteristics of various sounds, and the second memory block 52 storing various items of output information corresponding to the characteristic data of the various sounds such that each item of the output information is associated with each sound. The medium M such as a floppy disk or CD ROM is

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Concluded*

loadable into a disk drive of the storage device 50, and contains program instructions executable by the central processing unit of CPU for causing the information apparatus to perform a process of notifying output information to a remote terminal in response to an input signal of a sound. The process is performed by the steps of collecting a sound to provide an input signal of the collected sound, extracting characteristic data from the input signal of the collected sound, addressing the first memory block and the second memory block based on the extracted characteristic data to identify the item of the output information corresponding to the collected sound, transmitting the identified item of the output information to the remote terminal, and registering a new sound and a corresponding item of output information to update the first memory block and the second memory block such that characteristic data is extracted from the new sound and the corresponding item of the output information is determined in association with the new sound, and then the extracted new characteristic data is stored in the first memory block while the corresponding item of the output information is stored in the second memory block.

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